

DAVID B. HILL'S CALL TO ARMS AND PROPHECY

EXCLUSIVELY PUBLISHED IN SUNDAY'S JOURNAL.

THE CAMPAIGN ISSUES CLEARLY STATED.

OF VICTORY WELCOMED BY STATE DEMOCRATS.

THE exclusive interview with former Senator David B. Hill published in the Sunday Journal was welcomed by Democrats and formed their sole topic of discussion yesterday. The four reasons he gave why Democratic success should be certain this Fall were accepted as conclusive, and leaders declared that his clear statement of the issues of the coming campaign would be of great benefit to the party. Their views of the situation and of Mr. Willis J. Abbot's interview with the former Senator are given below.

FORMER SENATOR HILL STATES THE ISSUES OF THE CAMPAIGN

He Declares for a Repeal of the Raines and Force Laws, Genuine Home Rule, Economy in the Expenditure of Public Money, Honest Men for Office and the Freedom of the Press.

"I HAVE great confidence that the Democracy will carry the State" this Fall. "In the first place, in the natural order of events, it is about time to expect a Republican defeat. There have been but two Republican Governors in the last fifteen years, and New York is usually Democratic, especially on State issues. We may now reasonably anticipate success because, under Democratic rule, the affairs of the State were better administered than under the past two Republican State administrations. "When the Republicans assumed power in 1894 the Empire State had not a dollar of bonded debt; its taxes were extremely low, its legislative enactments had been materially reduced in number, the pardoning power had been wisely exercised, public office had been regarded as a public trust, the civil service law had been properly enforced whether it injured friend or foe; men of high character and unsullied reputations had been appointed to official positions and the general affairs of the State had been honestly and satisfactorily conducted. What has since occurred? "We can no longer boast that our State has no public debt, but we find ourselves burdened with a bonded debt of over nine million dollars contracted under Republican rule. The State tax rate has steadily increased, notwithstanding that new sources of revenue have been added, and the State expenditures have been augmented until now they are nearly double those of any year of Democratic rule from 1892 to 1895. Special legislation has been fostered until our session laws are piled mountain high and the State is overwhelmed with a multitude of unnecessary, crude and unreasonable laws. "Every lawyer appreciates this fact, every Judge upon the bench understands it, and the public are beginning to realize it. The last two Republican Governors have virtually abdicated their positions and allowed nearly every silly, unwise and questionable bill to become a law which the Legislature has been weak enough to pass. "Notorious criminals have been pardoned without a shadow of reason, owing to political or corrupt influences, the most recent instance being that of the famous bunco stealer, Post. The administration of the civil service laws has been made a farce, and a scheme invented, called an examination for fitness, whereby the heads of departments have been enabled to virtually nullify the laws and to reward partisan favorites as well. This civil service scandal has been a disgrace to the State, and there are enough independent voters in the State to defeat the Republican ticket upon this ground alone. No matter what one's opinion as to the desirability or propriety of civil service laws generally may be, this much every man concedes, that, so long as they remain upon our statute books, they should be impartially and fairly administered, and not made the football of party politics, binding only upon Democrats when they are in power and violated at pleasure by our opponents. "Rights of Veterans Have Been Violated. "In this connection, let me say that the rights of veteran soldiers to retention in official stations have been openly and recklessly violated during the past four years. Veteran soldiers all over the State understand what has been done, and will resent it at the polls. The Court of Appeals recently decided that certain veterans had been improperly and illegally removed by heads of departments at Albany, but the present State Administration turns a deaf ear to this decision of the highest court in the State, and to the complaints of these veterans, and refuses to reinstate or to give them any relief. All this has been done boldly, recklessly and defiantly. "What is being witnessed at the Capitol at Albany every week and almost every day in the week? A notorious lobbyist, self-confessed and conceded, holding a high and a responsible position under the present Executive, goes out of and into the Executive Chamber at pleasure; is present with the Executive at every consultation on public matters; is not only the appointee, but the confidant, the friend, the chum, the adviser of the Chief Executive of the State; represents him at political conferences, and is the ambassador who carries the ultimatum of the Governor from Albany to New York when legislation is discussed at gatherings of Republican leaders. These are facts which are well known at Albany, and of which the public will be fully informed during the coming campaign. "Corruption in Awarding Contracts. "In addition to this scandal which the Republican party will be called upon to face, it can and will be shown that not only in canal matters, but in various State departments, the law which requires contracts for public work and material to be let to the lowest bidder, has been substantially nullified, and contracts have been repeatedly awarded to the highest bidder, because of political and corrupt influences, and the public moneys have been squandered. Facts, figures and names will be furnished at the proper time for the consideration of the electors. It is no wonder that the Republicans have announced that they prefer a short campaign this Fall. The shorter the better for them. "During recent Republican rule our Legislatures have degenerated into blackmailing bodies, apparently organized to



FOUR REASONS FOR VICTORY.

SAY to the Journal we will carry this State this Fall. We will carry it for these reasons:

First—There will be unity of purpose among Democrats. Up to the convention honest and proper rivalry, then united effort for victory.

Second—The ticket and platform will represent the sentiment of the State, not of one man nor of one city.

Third—The Republican State Administration has made Democratic victory necessary for the well-being of the State.

Fourth—So far as the war has a bearing on the political issues it will be advantageous to the Democrats, for men of our party led the fight in Congress for intervention in Cuba, and men of our party in the ranks are fighting to make that intervention conclusive.—DAVID B. HILL to Journal Representative.

pass "strike" measures of every kind and character. Every business man understands this potent and growing evil, fostered, protected and sustained by Republican politicians of questionable reputations. It is time there was a change. "No matter what recent Democratic national administrations may or may not have accomplished, whether they were failures or successes, this much is clear to every observing man, that State affairs have been more safely, wisely and prudently managed under Democratic than under Republican officials."

Much at Stake in This Campaign.

"Do you think the campaign will be an exciting one?" I asked. "It must necessarily be so. There is much at stake—the Governorship, the Legislature, a United States Senator, and an entire State ticket, and, therefore, each party will naturally put forth its greatest exertions. It should be an aggressive one on our part. We should organize at once without waiting for the State convention. We should arouse the people to the necessity of a change in State affairs."

"I have confidence in the people of our State. When there are no misleading national issues to confuse them as to their duty, they usually act wisely and well, and may safely be trusted. They are not afraid of the bugaboo of free trade. "The Government is already coining one million and a half of standard silver dollars each and every month, under the provision of the recent revenue bill, passed by a Republican Congress and approved by President McKinley himself, and hence the talk about fifty cent dollars seems to disturb no one any longer. "All the people, Democrats and Republicans alike, favor the war, and hence no issue can be made against us on that score."

Democratic Harmony Is Assured.

"Do you expect to have harmony among Democrats in the coming contest?" "Certainly I do. We shall have harmony if we have to fight for it. There is really nothing to contend about among ourselves, and we have only to direct our efforts against the common enemy, and this we propose to do. I think all Democratic factions realize the desirability of victory this Fall, and the possibility, if not the probability, of securing it, and I am confident that wise counsel will prevail. The up-country Democrats, with characteristic loyalty, are very desirous of success, and who is more interested than Tammany Hall in having a Democratic Governor to shield its organization from the partisan legislative attacks of a Republican Legislature?"

"What do you think will be the issues of the approaching election?" "While, of course, no national principles or policies of the Democratic party will be repudiated or abandoned, it is likely from the present political situation that State issues will largely predominate. Such issues are easily stated, and may be summarized as follows:

The Issues of the Campaign Stated:

First—The repeal of the infamous Raines law, and the enactment of a just and comprehensive excise law, liberal in its provisions, reasonable in its exactions, administered by local authorities instead of the present huge political State machine composed of Republican State officials, and its revenues applied to local purposes to reduce local taxation instead of being directed to State purposes.

Second—Genuine and honest home rule for cities. Not one kind of legislation for Democratic cities and another kind for Republican cities.

Third—The repeal of the Black Force law, recently enacted. Uniform election laws throughout the State, enforced by local officials everywhere. Equal rights and equal citizenship for all the electors of the State.

Fourth—Opposition to unnecessary special legislation. A material reduction of the volume of our annual laws and a return to the principles of general legislation, practically abandoned for the past four years.

Fifth—An honest administration of the affairs of the State. No squandering of the public moneys. Contracts to be fairly let to the lowest bona-fide public bidder. A reduction of canal expenditures and the work of carrying on further canal improvements not to be entrusted to Republican officials responsible for the prodigality, favoritism and corruption which have characterized the present administration of the canals.

Sixth—A fair and just enforcement of the State Civil Service laws, according to their letter and spirit. The Soldier Preference law to be impartially executed, and soldiers' rights restored without regard to political affiliations.

Seventh—Economy in public expenditures. A low taxation rate, as was during the administrations of Democratic Governors from 1883 to 1895. A reduction of salaries increased and the abolition of commissions unnecessarily created during the four years of the Republican rule.

Eighth—Honest men for public office; corruptionists and lobbyists to the rear. Opposition to the alliance for corruption purposes of the State Government with certain corporations, the brazen effrontery of an administration which puts forth as the personal representative of the Governor, a person who is notoriously the hireling of such corporations as find it necessary or profitable to influence legislation, even in the Executive Chamber.

Ninth—Freedom of the press as guaranteed by the Constitution. No Ellsworth Newspaper bill, abridging the rights of the press as expressed since the organization of the Government. No gag law.

Tenth—The restoration of the National Guard of the State to that high standing and efficiency which it enjoyed under Democratic administrations, especially under the Adjutant-Generalship of General Josiah Porter, and before it was demoralized, humiliated and injured through the incompetency, blundering and indifference of the present military management of Governor Black and his Adjutant-General.

Canal Scandal Prominent as a State Issue.

"Do you think that the canal scandal will be prominent among the State issues?" was asked. "Yes. It is an issue which cannot be overshadowed by anything else. It affects the pockets of the taxpayers, and in these hard times pecuniary questions will influence men's actions. Of course, I know nothing about the forthcoming report of the Canal Investigating Commission, but I cannot believe it possible, in the light of the evidence produced and already partially made public, that the Commission can approve, justify or whitewash the prodigality, the incompetency, the falsity, the favoritism and the extravagance which have entered into the expenditure involved in the canal improvements."

MR. CROKER SAYS THAT HILL'S STATEMENT TO THE JOURNAL IS GOOD.

The Leader Is Evidently Pleased with the Ex-Senator's Presentation of the Issues of the Coming Campaign.



RICHARD CROKER.

Long Branch, July 31.—One of the first questions asked of Mr. Croker to-day was whether he had read in the Sunday Journal the statements made by ex-Senator Hill concerning the chances of Democratic success in the State this Fall, and the certainty of harmony in the Democratic ranks.

"Of course I have," said Mr. Croker. "Do you agree with him in his statement of the issues of the campaign and in his arraignment of the Republican party? What do you think of the ex-Senator's statements?"

"Pretty good," said Mr. Croker, decisively. "He was asked to go into details and explain what points in the ex-Senator's statement pleased him best, but he only said:

"Now, you know that I have decided not to discuss any political questions until after September 1."

HIS WORDS SEVERE BUT JUSTIFIED.

Syracuse, N. Y., July 31.—Melvin Z. Haven, City Chief adviser of Mayor McCall, said: "I read published in the Sunday Journal the statements of ex-Senator Hill, and I am convinced that they are as able and concise statement of the situation. The Democracy will win this Fall if prevalent sentiment throughout the State is not changed. We must have no more of the kind of administration that we have now. The present State administration is severe and true. Such an administration will be endorsed by the people of this State, provided wise counsel prevails in their own party and honest, able men are upon our ticket."

TITUS IS PLEASED WITH THE INTERVIEW.

The Supreme Court Justice Says It Expresses the Situation in the State.

Buffalo, N. Y., July 31.—Justice Robert C. Titus, of the Supreme Court, who is a candidate for the nomination of Governor, said:

"Senator Hill's interview expresses very clearly the situation in the State. I have not studied it very carefully and am not in a position to say whether I agree with all of his statements. I intend to go into the matter more thoroughly."

DEMOCRACY WILL CARRY THE STATE.

Norman E. Mack Agrees with the Views of Ex-Senator Hill.

Buffalo, N. Y., July 31.—Norman E. Mack, proprietor of the Times, said: "Senator Hill's interview seems to cover the situation very thoroughly. The leaders must carry out the views of the people who put them at the head. There must be no attempt to drive the voters. Play fair with the people and the party is certain to win at the polls. Republican misrule and unjust legislation have made it possible for a united Democracy to carry the State."

IT'S ALL TRUE AND RIGHT TO THE POINT.

Daniel N. Lockwood's Opinion of Ex-Senator Hill's Interview.

Buffalo, July 31.—Daniel N. Lockwood said of the Journal's interview with ex-Senator Hill: "Like all of Senator Hill's public utterances it is a great interview. He hits the Republican party hard and what he says of a united Democracy is true and right to the point."

DUNN BELIEVES WITH THE EX-SENATOR.

Says Democrats Can Win on the Issues He Enumerated.

Long Branch, July 31.—Sheriff Thomas J. Dunn, said:

"I believe that on the issues enumerated by Senator Hill in the Journal interview we shall carry the State this Fall."

Bodies of men's Victims Found. The bodies of two men were found in a trench near the site of the explosion at the Long Branch. The bodies were found by a search party. The explosion occurred on Friday night, July 30, and the bodies were found on Saturday morning, July 31. The explosion was caused by a gas leak from a gas pipe. The gas pipe was owned by the Long Branch Gas Company. The explosion killed two men and injured several others. The bodies of the two men who were killed were found in a trench near the site of the explosion. The bodies were found by a search party. The explosion occurred on Friday night, July 30, and the bodies were found on Saturday morning, July 31. The explosion was caused by a gas leak from a gas pipe. The gas pipe was owned by the Long Branch Gas Company. The explosion killed two men and injured several others. The bodies of the two men who were killed were found in a trench near the site of the explosion. The bodies were found by a search party. 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